

In the Claims:

Please withdraw claims 3, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, and 26 without prejudice, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A thermo-plastic container for hermetically sealing a single stack of fragile articles, comprising:

a ~~generally tubular~~ substantially cylindrical body with a central longitudinal axis, said body having a sidewall, a closed end and a hermetically sealable open end; wherein said open and closed ends have substantially circular lateral cross-sections and said sidewall includes a flowing geometries mechanism formed therein.
2. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the flowing geometries mechanism comprises at least one lateral flexible hinged area defining a weakened panel area.
3. (Withdrawn)
4. (Original) The container of Claim 2 wherein the panel area has a lateral cross section that is curved.
5. (Original) The container of Claim 2 wherein the panel area comprises a plurality of aligned, non-annular, evenly spaced parallel grooves oriented perpendicular to said central longitudinal axis.
6. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the flowing geometries mechanism comprises at least two flowing geometries mechanisms evenly spaced around the annular periphery of the body.

7. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein said sidewall further comprises a structural rigidity mechanism formed therein.
8. (Withdrawn)
9. (Original) The container of Claim 7 wherein said structural rigidity mechanism comprises an annular corrugated pattern formed therein.
10. (Original) The container of Claim 9 wherein said annular corrugated pattern traverses about the longitudinal axis of the container in a sinusoidal pattern.
11. (Withdrawn)
12. (Withdrawn)
13. (Currently Amended) A blow-molded, thermo-plastic container for packaging a single stack of fragile articles, which when hermetically sealed is responsive to forces induced by changes in environmental conditions without detracting from the commercial presentation of the container, said container comprising:

a ~~generally tubular~~ substantially cylindrical body having a central longitudinal axis, said body comprising a sidewall having a plurality of flowing geometries mechanisms formed therein, wherein said sidewall comprises a permanently closed lower base section, a middle section and a hermetically sealable upper section, said lower base and upper sections having substantially circular lateral cross-sections.

14. (Original) The container of Claim 13 wherein each of said flowing geometries mechanisms comprises at least one lateral flexible hinged area and a weakened panel area.
15. (Withdrawn)
16. (Withdrawn)
17. (Original) The container of Claim 14 wherein the panel area has a lateral cross section that is curved.
18. (Original) The container of Claim 14 wherein said weakened panel area comprises a plurality of aligned, non-annular, evenly spaced parallel grooves oriented perpendicular to said central longitudinal axis formed therein.
19. (Currently Amended) The container of Claim 14 wherein ~~said lower base and upper sections have a generally circular lateral cross section and~~ said middle section has a generally oval lateral cross section.
20. (Currently Amended) The container of Claim 18 wherein said at least one flexible hinge area comprises a flexible transitional area formed in the lower base section and the upper section whereby the generally substantially circular lateral cross section of said lower base and upper sections transitions to the generally oval lateral cross section of said middle section.
21. (Currently Amended) The container of Claim 19 wherein said flowing geometries mechanism comprises ~~at least~~ two flowing geometries mechanisms evenly spaced around

the annular periphery of the body.

22. (Currently Amended) The container of Claim 13 wherein said lower base and upper sections include a structural rigidity mechanism formed therein.
23. (Original) The container of Claim 21 wherein said structural rigidity mechanism comprises an annular corrugated pattern formed therein.
24. (Original) The container of Claim 21 wherein said annular corrugated pattern traverses the central longitudinal axis at a perpendicular angle.
25. (Original) The container of Claim 21 wherein said annular corrugated pattern traverses about the central longitudinal axis in a sinusoidal pattern.
26. (Withdrawn)